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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

30 VILLISTAS KILLED IN BATTLE

American Forces Under Col. Brown, of the Tenth Cavalry, Defeat Outlaw Band, Fight Occurring April 1st

San Antonio, April 4.—Thirty Villistas were killed in a battle with American forces under Colonel Brown of the Tenth Cavalry, Brigadier General Pershing announced in his official dispatches to Major General Funston today. There were no American casualties.

Pershing stated Brown and one squadron of the Tenth encountered Villistas east of Bachimba. Pershing's information came from native sources. He says the fight occurred April 1 and that the Villistas were surprised.

**BATTALION ENCAMPED
AT EL CENTRO, CAL.**

Vancouver, Wash., April 4.—The Third battalion, 21st Infantry, is encamped on the court house grounds at El Centro, Cal., according to advice received here. Arrangements for the use of the grounds were made by the El Centro chamber of commerce. City water, telephones, electric lights and other modern conveniences have been provided.

**VILLISTA GENERAL
IS READY TO QUIT**

Torreón, Mex., April 4.—Offering to surrender if given amnesty, General Canuto Reyes, commanding Villistas in this region, has communicated with General Trevino, of the Carranzista forces, the latter announced today. Reyes was recently reported active near here, various accounts saying he led 1,500 bandits.

HOLLAND REFUSES TO CLOSE FRONTIER

Berlin, April 4.—Holland has flatly refused the allies' informal request that its German frontier be closed as an aid to the campaign of "starvation." It was reported today.

There is no doubt that developments at the allied military conference in Paris inspired recent Dutch warlike activities, according to belief here.

Allied ministers at The Hague presented formal "feelers" to the Dutch foreign office.

Queen Wilhelmina replied by summoning her parliament and cancelling all army furloughs. It was reliably stated. No formal demands have been made yet.

Several sources reported that the Dutch minister of agriculture ordered an accounting of all foodstuffs and grains in the Netherlands.

**CLAIM CHRISTOFFERSON
INFRINGES ON PATENT**

San Francisco, April 4.—The United States district court was asked today to enjoin Aviator Sillas Christofferson from making or selling aeroplanes of the type he is now using. The petition was filed on behalf of Regina C. and Ellen Montgomery, wife and mother of John J. Montgomery, pioneer aviator and instructor, at Santa Clara. The petition alleges the curvature of the wings was invented and patented by Montgomery and that Christofferson is infringing on the patent.

\$25,000,000 PER DAY ESTIMATE OF WAR EXPENSE

London, April 4.—Introducing the new war budget in the house of commons today, Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, said he assumed the war would last "at least during the entire financial year," which ends March 31, 1917.

The budget estimated that war expenditures would total \$25,000,000 a day. Great Britain, it was stated, had assisted its allies by loaning them \$1,500,000,000 during the year which ended March 31.

British indebtedness was figured at \$10,700,000,000. The budget totaled \$1,575,000,000. Revenues from all sources, it stated, were estimated at \$1,685,000,000. Last year's deficit was \$56,000,000, made up by borrowing. An increased deficit would be inevitable, McKenna declared.

"Great Britain, however," said McKenna, "begins the year with a substantial asset consisting of unrealized securities recently mobilized."

McKenna's figures staggered the house of commons. The national debt, he pointed out, had nearly tripled since the war began.

STEEL CO. OPPOSES ARMOR PLATE BILL

Washington, April 4.—Before the house naval committee today, representatives of the Bethlehem Steel company made a final effort to prevent recommendation of the government armor plate bill being voted. President Grace promised that if the United States should be involved in war, or threatened with war, his plant would furnish products at "any price the government chooses to pay." He further asserted his factories would run 24 hours a day; if necessary, to supply federal requirements for armor plate. A promise to manufacture armor plate indefinitely at any price the trade commission might fix was likewise made.

Grace said he made the offers as a matter of patriotism, and also with a view to saving \$7,000,000 which had been invested. The plant had previously offered armor plate at \$395 a ton for a period of five years. It is doubtful whether these overtures will prevent government competition.

**FORD MAKES GOOD RACE
IN MICHIGAN PRIMARY**

Detroit, April 4.—Henry Ford was 1,000 votes ahead of United States Senator Wm. Alden Smith for the republican nomination in the Michigan presidential preference primary. The count, however, was only partially complete in five precincts. Election officials stated the result would not be available for hours.

Woodrow Wilson was the only democratic candidate. William G. Simpson, of Detroit, third republican presidential candidate, received only a small vote. In a number of counties republicans wrote Theodore Roosevelt's name on the ballot.

ZEPPELIN FAILS IN ENGLISH RAID

London, April 4.—A single Zeppelin raided the east coast of England at 2 a. m. today. It was officially announced this afternoon. Several explosions were heard. There was no damage and no casualties.

London failed to report any Zeppelin raids last night. This attack is the fourth within as many days.

DIPLOMATIC CODE KNOWN IN EUROPE

U. S. Ambassadors Tell the State Department That Foreign Countries Can Read America's Secret Messages

Berlin, April 4.—Ambassadors Gerard and Penfield and Minister Van Dyke at The Hague have joined in a protest to the state department against the continued use of the present American diplomatic code.

The state department at Washington, replying to a recent United Press dispatch from Berlin stating that the United States secret code was known to several of the European belligerents, insisted that secret dispatches could still be sent.

"That is what the department always says," said an American official today, fully in touch with the situation. "You'll find the code will not be changed until it is too late."

It was learned today that an American code book was stolen from an attaché of the American minister to the Balkans shortly before the outbreak of the war. Secret service men tried for weeks to trace it before the loss was communicated to Washington. It is not known what belligerent possesses this volume, but the American envoys are convinced that every important European power can read not only the diplomatic but the naval secret code.

About seven months ago an official mail pouch, carrying a highly important secret to the navy department from an observer in Germany, was opened after it left London. The secret report was unsealed and when it reached Washington showed much handling. In many of the foreign embassies and legations, English, French, German and other foreign attaches have acted as American code experts. It is quite possible that several men who have handled the American diplomatic code are now in the employ of European governments.

COL. ERWIN LED AMERICANS IN THE FIRST BATTLE WITH VILLISTAS

U. S. Army Headquarters, Dublin, Mexico (By Motor to Columbus, N. M.), April 4.—Though Colonel Dodd has been credited with the American victory over Villistas at San Geronimo, Colonel Erwin actually led the 400 cavalymen on the sensational 17-hour ride which resulted in the complete rout of the bandits.

Villa's friends prevented a sudden surprise attack by notifying the outlaws that Americans were coming. Nearly all the Villistas had their horses saddled and were ready to mount as Colonel Erwin's men swept in on them from the west.

Waiting only to fire a hurried volley, they leaped to their horses and raced toward the east. The Americans pursued, yelling and shooting, clinging to their saddles with their legs, so their arms would be free to manipulate rifles and revolvers. As the bullets sang many Mexicans toppled from their mounts and tumbled among the scurrying hoofs.

For five hours the saddle-worn Americans kept up the pursuit over strange and dangerous mountain trails. Groups of bandits scurried into mountain pockets and defiles at each turn. At intervals small bands halted, fired volleys point blank and then resumed their wild flight.

VILLA SAID TO BE SOUTH OF PARRAL

No Further Word of Fighting in Mexico Has Come, and More Troops Will Be Needed If Army Advances Further

San Antonio, April 4.—Francisco Villa is south of Parral, according to a message received today from Consul Letcher, in Chihuahua City. Army headquarters have had no word from General Pershing for some time. No reports of further fighting have been received.

Funston stated that lines of communication could not be maintained much farther south without enormously increasing the difficulties of forwarding supplies.

Funston's statement was taken as an indication that more troops would be asked for if the expedition marches farther into Mexico. He said he would not dare move any more men from the border, but if the militia should be called upon, he could use the national guardsmen to replace regulars on the border patrol. The present line of communications is the longest ever maintained without ravishing the country traversed, and it is the longest in the history of the United States army.

Anti-Carranzistas have burned two bridges on the Mexican International railway north of Sabins, evidently with the intention of isolating the garrison at Monclova. These raiders were reported to be a new faction, not Villistas. They also cut the telegraph wires.

**REPUBLICANS AID
IN FREE SUGAR REPEAL**

Washington, April 4.—Republicans in congress informally assured democrats today that their aid might be counted on in repealing the free sugar clause in the tariff bill before May 1.

The sure-footedness of the Mexican ponies, coupled with their riders' intimacy with the country, enabled the fugitives to out-distance their pursuers by noon.

After having been 22 hours in the saddle, Colonel Erwin's men administered their overwhelming defeat. Villa's force was crushed. It lost 60 men killed and abandoned its prisoners. The American cost was only four troopers wounded.

Colonel Erwin was in command of the American center engaged in an enveloping movement outlined by Colonel Dodd. He intended to fight at Guerrero. Erwin followed the Rio Guerrero valley close to the railroad. The left moved eastward from Namiquipa, then southward through Tehaunes. The center rode to Guerrero after the Carranzista-Villista battle in which Villa was reported wounded. Erwin learned that the main Villista body was at San Geronimo and immediately galloped in pursuit.

**CLAIM GREECE WANTS
ALLIES TO LEAVE SALONIKI**

Berlin, April 4.—Greece has requested the allies to withdraw all their military establishments at Saloniki, according to dispatches from Athens today.

GERMANS HURL HEAVY SHELLS AT THE FRENCH

London, April 4.—Massed German batteries on three sides of Bethincourt are giving French positions a terrific bombardment today, and it is feared the defenders will soon be forced to evacuate their strongholds.

French successes at Vaux village and the surrounding country were not sufficient to offset the German gain on a two-mile front northwest of Verdun.

French positions west of the Meuse are believed to be seriously endangered.

A heavy artillery battle continued during the whole of yesterday on the entire sector northwest of Verdun. For a week the Germans have been shelling Hill 304. It is the keystone of the outer defenses in that district.

German shells have crumbled its trenches and wrecked the French batteries stationed there.

Indications are that the Germans plan to take Bethincourt and smooth French lines to the west under an overwhelming attack, forcing the French to retire to the shelter of the first permanent fortifications of Verdun, near Ennes.

LODGE SPEAKS FOR PREPAREDNESS

Washington, April 4.—Fresh from the "preparedness" luncheon in New York at which Elihu Root and Theodore Roosevelt were present, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge made a spirited speech in the senate today which was listened to with great interest, as many believed he expressed Roosevelt's views.

Lodge declared he was in favor of universal military service. He flayed the Hay army bill as a "useless measure." Chamberlain's army bill, he said, was all right as far as it goes. He asserted it did not go far enough.

The speaker said there should be 250,000 regular soldiers in the army. The present navy he denounced as inadequate.

"There is no need for us to live any longer in a fool's paradise!" he cried.

**ZEPPELINS AGAIN
RAID BRITISH COAST**

Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, April 4.—Zeppelins again raided the southeast coast of England last night and dropped explosive bombs on the fortifications of Great Yarmouth, the admiralty announced today. The Zeppelins returned in safety, although they were subjected to heavy shelling by the British.

REVENUE OFFICERS IN GRAFT CHARGE

Washington, April 4.—Charging that deputy internal revenue collectors had been on the payrolls of certain tobacco manufacturers for illegal purposes, Carl Whitney, attorney for 30 manufacturers arrested in New York in connection with an investigation of alleged tobacco frauds, issued a sensational statement today.

"He claimed that the revenue collectors were paid \$5 or \$10 weekly for 'collusion.' Whitney refused to reveal the names of the accused men, saying he intended to use them in the defense of his clients. If his charges can be proved, the New York grand jury may be asked to vote indictments.

G. A. Dunn and B. McMurray left last night on a trip to Seattle.

BOUSMANSR. IS INDICTED FOR MURDER

Slayer of Mr. and Mrs. Akers at Wilderville Must Stand Trial Upon Two Counts of Second Degree Murder

M. D. Bousman, Sr., the confessed slayer of Mr. and Mrs. Akers at Wilderville four weeks ago, was indicted for murder in the second degree by the grand jury upon two counts today, one indictment for the murder of each. The prisoner is being held without bail for trial at the session of the circuit court that will open next Monday. Indictment for second degree murder was necessary, as first degree murder now carries no punishment in this state, the penalty, death upon the gallows, having been voted out of the statutes. Conviction for second degree murder carries with it imprisonment for life in the state penitentiary.

When Bousman was before the grand jury he detailed practically the same story that he had previously told through the columns of the Courier, so it is reported.

Two other indictments were also returned, one against Alfred Hutchinson, charged with wantonly killing an animal, and the other an indictment for larceny, the defendant, who has not yet been apprehended, being described as John Doe.

Bousman will be held without bail. Hutchinson's bonds were placed at \$250, and "John Doe" will be held under \$500 bonds when apprehended.

When the grand jury returned the indictments in court it reported that it had completed its labors except for the examination of the county property.

ATTACK OREGON'S NEW BOOZE LAW

Salem, April 4.—Without deciding the constitutionality of part of Oregon's prohibition law, the supreme court today advised Wadhams & Company, of Portland, to start a replevin action against the San Francisco & Portland Steamship company to compel the delivery of a shipment of grain alcohol from San Francisco. The steamship company refused to deliver the alcohol. Bringing suit, Wadhams & Company attacked the constitutionality of the prohibition law.

In effect, the supreme court said that the wholesalers can secure the alcohol by replevin.

"We are not disposed to make this proceeding by private parties an excuse to construe new legislation upon the subject of intoxicants," said Justice Burnett in his opinion.

**MRS. WAITE SEEKS DIVORCE
FROM CONFESSED MURDERER**

Grand Rapids, Mich., April 4.—Divorce was demanded today in a suit filed by Mrs. Arthur Warren Waite, whose husband has confessed that he poisoned John Peck, his wealthy father-in-law, in New York. In her complaint she charged her husband gained her consent to wed by fraud, treated her cruelly afterward, murdered her parents, planned to kill her and plotted to slay other members of her family. She alleged he had illegal relations with Mrs. Margaret Horton and other women "unknown to the plaintiff."